

Old Testament Bible Heroes

Job - Perseverance

Ready (*Plant the seed*)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. - James 1:2-3

Set (*Get the conversation started*)

Job was a rich man. He had land, livestock and a big family. Job loved God and was a good man. One day Satan argued with God that it is easy for a man to worship Him when things are good and he can count his blessings. So God, knowing that Job was faithful, allowed Satan to put Job through trials. He lost all of his possessions, his family and servants and was alone. He still praised God. He then lost his health and became infected with painful sores all over his body, yet he did not turn away from God. He continued in steadfast prayer even when his wife and friends tried to convince him otherwise. God rewarded Job's faith and perseverance through the trials with double the wealth he had before, a family, his health restored and a long life.

It's easy to thank God and be faithful in the good times. As an athlete, there will be times when you become frustrated: when you are trying to master a new skill, when you keep putting up shots but can't sink a basket or even when you face a challenging team. It is during these times that your character will be revealed through your perseverance in trials. God rewarded Job in abundance after his testing revealed his faithfulness. When you find yourself frustrated, keep giving it your best. Colossians 3:23 says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord." God knows your heart and knows if you are truly giving it your best. Don't give up and He will reward your perseverance.

Grow (*Talk it over*)

- Share a time when you felt like giving up.
- What does your perseverance show others about God?
- How can you use perseverance to teach others about Jesus?

Pray

Father God, we love you. We thank you that you are not only with us in our times of celebration, but also in our times of struggle and loss. We know that you are always with us and share in our trials. Please strengthen us to be faithful in those times so that we may show others the magnitude of your grace and glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Overtime (*Team Building Game to Support Concept*)

Human Conveyor Belt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WVS4LS9tts> example

-Break into teams of 4-5 people each. Players lay on floor next to each other, shoulder-shoulder at one end of court (They are the rollers) one teammate lays lengthwise on top (headfirst on back- cross arms across chest). They start rolling shoulder-shoulder to move a player toward the other end of the court. When one roller reaches the back of the conveyer belt, he runs to the front to lay down to keep the belt moving.

Goal of the games is to roll across gym moving 1 player at a time along the conveyer belt. First team across court wins. *Say: Perseverance means that you keep working with the end in mind and don't give up- especially when it gets hard. You are going to move your team across the gym one player at a time along the conveyer belt. The first team across wins!*